

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 865  
By Winningham

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Head Coach Mark Eldridge and the 1997-1998 Oneida High School boys' basketball team on their many accomplishments.

WHEREAS, with exceptional poise, skill, and determination, the members of the outstanding 1997-1998 Oneida High School boys' basketball team have permanently etched their names into the glorious athletic history of our state, climaxing an excellent season by reaching the semifinal round of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class A State Tournament; and

WHEREAS, Oneida won the District 3-A Tournament despite encountering strong competition; and

WHEREAS, having garnered considerable praise from sports fans and sports writers, the Indians next took home the Region 2-A Tournament title trophy, with victories over Greenback 57-42, Rockwood 57-43 and Cosby 51-45; and

WHEREAS, in the memorable substate game, Oneida defeated Forge Ridge 76-54; and

WHEREAS, at the State Tournament's first round, Oneida beat McKenzie 60-59, in overtime; and

WHEREAS, they finished the season with a masterful 26-10 overall record; and

WHEREAS, the team's awesome man-to-man defense played an important role in their overall success; and

**\*200000000\***

20000000

**\*017632\***

\*01763226\*

WHEREAS, Head Coach Mark Eldridge was appropriately chosen as the *Knoxville News-Sentinel* East Tennessee Coach of the Year. His fine support staff included Assistant Coaches Rodney Pile, Jared Thomas, Bekah Hughes and Sarah Smith; and

WHEREAS, Oneida's team leaders included T. J. Green, Heath Phillips, Derek Lawson, and Seth Billingsley, who each received All-District recognition; and

WHEREAS, the team members include Seniors: Brandon Boyatt, Curt West, and Dustin Posey; Junior: Adam Jones; Sophomores: Ryan Burchfield, Joel Davis, Matt King, Jordan Smith and Freshmen: Matthew Baker, Jacob Billingsley, Will Parker, Josh West; and

WHEREAS, Principal Rick Harper provided moral encouragement; and

WHEREAS, the scorekeeper was Brom Shoemaker and the statistician was Max E. Huff; and

WHEREAS, the cheerleaders were: Courtney Bond, Rachel Laxton, Angel Phillips, Jaclyn Reed, Sabrina Byrd, Jordan Murphy, Casey Litton, Carissa Foster, and Amanda Sexton; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we should pause to salute the accomplishments of this notable squad; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Head Coach Mark Eldridge and the 1997-1998 Oneida High School boys' basketball team and express our hope that each person connected with the team enjoys a successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school, each team member and each additional person named above, with this final clause omitted from such copies.